

# THE SUMPTER MINER.

VOL. I.

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NO. 8.

## \$100 A FOOT FRONT

### THIS PRICE RULES FOR SUMPTER BUSINESS PROPERTY.

**J. G. Connell Makes a Big Buy From Mayor Gleason—Syndicate Sells \$50,000 Worth of Lots—W. L. Vinson Takes a Flyer on Inside Property—Other Important Realty Transfers.**

Every week breaks all previous records in the Sumpter real estate market, but it is doubtful if as much property changes hands here in any consecutive seven days (Sunday included) for some time to come as was transferred since the last issue of THE MINER up to last evening.

The highest price yet paid for a lot was the \$2700 which J. G. Connell received from the First Bank of Sumpter for the twenty-five feet on the corner of Center and Granite, amounting to \$108 a foot front for a vacant lot. But Mr. Connell had to pay almost as much for sixty feet at the head of Center street, fronting on it to the south, before he could persuade Mayor W. H. Gleason to part with it, and even then it was regarded more as an act of friendship than a business transaction. This property is 60 by 200 feet and has a comfortable dwelling on it. The price paid was \$6000, or \$100 a foot front. Mr. Connell expects to build a fine brick hotel on the property next spring.

But when it comes to volume, the Sumpter Townsite syndicate did what is termed in some localities, a land office business. No mention will be made of the small transactions engineered by the various real estate brokers. Three deals have been consummated, aggregating twenty-nine blocks, 580 lots, the money received therefor, in round numbers, being \$50,000.

Down the line somewhere, W. L. Vinson met Joseph McCabe, than whom there is no more widely nor favorably known railroad man in the West. He belongs to a family of railroaders, every one of whom is known, in the technical language of the freight brakeman, as a "brass collar." This particular one of the McCabes is vice-president and general manager of the Columbia River Railway company, and for years was superintendent of the coast division of the Northern Pacific. Well, Mr. Vinson saw him down the line, as stated above, and brought him home with him. Asked by a MINER man what he was doing here, "Oh, just rubbering around," said Colonel McCabe. But before he left town he had bought three full blocks, for which he paid \$5,000. This is for himself and some of his friends at Walla Walla.

A Spokane syndicate has bought through correspondence ten blocks for \$18,000. This deal has been closed all except selecting the property.

The Cobban, Casey, Day Company, Butte brokers, have engineered the sale of sixteen blocks, for about \$27,000.

H. M. Grant, representing the German American Insurance company, a friend of W. C. Calder, has secured an option on some property and will organize a syndicate of insurance men and invest about \$10,000 in Sumpter realty.

Of course W. L. Vinson is in on all the good things going. During the past few days he has taken a flyer in real estate, playing choice locations open. He first bought of F. E. Geiser lots 6, 7 and

8, block 5, South Sumpter addition, for \$4000. Monday he purchased for his wife, Mrs. Alice G. Vinson, the 100 feet square and improvements thereon, located at the southeast corner of Mill and North streets, the consideration being \$3000. The dwelling now there will be used as a place of residence and a well arranged building will be erected at once on the south portion of the lot for Mr. Vinson's general offices.

Lot 5 in block 4, 50 by 115, next to the Sumpter Lumber company's office on Mill street, was sold by the Sumpter Townsite syndicate to N. T. Collett last week, under the conditions that a two-story brick building be erected thereon. These improvements will be made this winter if it is possible to get the brick. Another lot was sold to Mrs. Collett immediately across the block, in the rear of where the new brick hotel building is to be erected. The lot south of the Basche Hardware company, on Mill street, owned by N. T. Collett was sold Monday through W. C. Calder to Bela Kadish, of Baker City, for \$2500, spot cash.

### CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

#### Four Ordinances Passed and Routine Business Transacted.

At the city council meeting Saturday evening these ordinances were passed: No. 39, establishing the width of curb lines on all streets; No. 40, regulating the placing of telephone and electric light poles; No. 41, prohibiting the use of opium and regulating its sale; No. 42, directing the city engineer to establish grades on Gracker, Center, Mill and Austin streets.

The matter of procuring hose, hose cart and placing fire plugs was referred to the committee on fire and water.

Councilman Parkinson withdrew from the committee on fire and water and A. W. Ellis was substituted.

The committee on public property was instructed to inspect the engine house and report on needed repairs.

The council then adjourned until last evening, but at that time a quorum failed to materialize and no meeting was held.

#### Shutt Denies the Rumor.

L. P. Shutt, of Hood River, arrived here Sunday to remain a few days, looking after his mining and real estate interests. He is having several more houses, for rent, built on his residence lot in Parkinson's addition. Mr. Shutt is agreeably surprised at Sumpter's rapid and substantial growth, and expects to spend the greater portion of next summer at this place. He says there is no foundation to the report, as mentioned elsewhere in this paper, that he is preparing to establish a paper at Granite, as he has no desire to engage in the newspaper business at present. He will spend the winter on his farm at Hood River.

#### Fire Insurance Survey of Sumpter.

W. W. Alverson, representing the Atlas Assurance company, and H. M. Grant, of the German-American, both of Portland, and John W. Murphy, the local representative of a number of leading companies, are making a fire insurance survey of the town. Mr. Alverson is accompanied by his wife and child.

#### Lumbermen Looking Over the Ground.

Mr. Allen, a lumberman from Tacoma, spent several days in Sumpter this week, sizing up the situation with a view to engaging in business here.

#### Steam Wood Saw Here.

I have a first-class steam wood saw and am in the field to saw cord or slab wood in any lengths desired, on short notice. My office is anywhere you hear or see the saw. P. A. Correll, Proprietor.

## BUILDING BOOMING.

### Work on a Number of New Business Houses Started.

J. G. Connell has decided to build a brick building on the lot adjoining the one sold to the First Bank of Sumpter. The structure will be of the same dimensions as the bank, 25x60 feet, two stories high, and in addition will have a basement. Work on both is now being rapidly pushed.

Next to W. C. Calder's store, a handsome two-story frame building, 25 by 100 feet, will soon be erected. Mr. Calder will move into the new building and his present quarters will be for rent. J. H. Robbins, president of the First Bank of Sumpter, who has come here from La Grande to reside, is agent for the property. Except so far as the erection of the new building, its affairs are rather unsettled. Mr. Robbins says he has been offered \$100 a month for the corner, to be occupied by a large mercantile establishment, but the offer has not been definitely accepted.

The Basche Hardware company is having built on the railroad right-of-way, just east of C. J. John's, at the Cracker street crossing, a warehouse 30 by 75 feet.

South of the railroad track, near Center street, Hoffman & Wilson, recent arrivals from Spokane, have begun work on a large building, to be used as a feed and grain store. They report that it is impossible to get carpenters, and with some amateur assistance are laying the foundation themselves.

Contractor White has begun work on the twelve cottages for Harrison & Barchard, east of the school house.

S. P. Shutt says he thinks he will get started today on three cottages in the Parkinson addition, but is finding much trouble in securing both lumber and workmen.

C. S. Van Duyn is having a handsome two-story home erected on Columbia street, near Auburn.

Johnson & Davis, from Baker City, are enlarging the residence on the corner of Mill and Sumpter streets, to be used as a candy factory and bakery.

Work on the Wilson brick block, south Mill street, is being rushed by a large force of stone and brick masons. The foundation is completed.

A. P. Goss expects to have his brick block finished and ready for occupancy by the middle of this month.

### MEETING OF SUMPTER CLUB.

#### President Vinson Appoints the Various Permanent Committees.

An enthusiastic and well attended meeting of the Sumpter Club was held Saturday evening at the Ellis opera house, to complete its organization. President W. L. Vinson called the meeting to order and as preliminary matters in general had been disposed of at previous meetings, no time was lost in getting at the vital interests of the club. Mr. Vinson, in a few well delivered remarks, thanked the members for the honor conferred upon him, especially since his election took place during his absence some weeks ago. He was followed by Captain C. H. Thompson, vice-president, W. C. Calder, secretary, and A. P. Goss, treasurer, each in a neat and interesting speech. The president then suggested the following permanent committees, which, added to the officers previously elected, were in each instance ap-

proved by a vote of the club, and the organization was declared permanent, and the necessary steps to incorporate will be taken at once.

Officers: W. L. Vinson, president; Captain C. H. Thompson, vice-president; W. C. Calder, secretary; A. P. Goss, treasurer.

House committee: General Charles S. Warren, chairman; William Stinson, vice-chairman; A. P. Goss, John M. Burke, W. C. Calder, J. W. Mead and Clark Tabor.

Executive committee: N. C. Richards, chairman; John M. Murphy, vice-chairman; Mayor William H. Gleason, C. E. Roblin, A. W. Harrison.

Finance committee: C. J. Johns, chairman; A. W. Ellis, vice-chairman; Clark Snyder, T. D. Bellinger, P. D. Healy.

Library and Publication committee: C. H. Marsh, chairman; L. V. Swiggett, vice-chairman, J. B. Stoddard, L. Bush Livermore, Simcoe Chapman, Angus McQueen, John Gagen.

Property committee: C. H. McCulloch, chairman; J. R. Neill, vice-chairmen; Joe Mickel, J. T. Parkinson, A. Hillier, Dr. G. W. Tape, R. R. Erwin.

Reception committee: Captain C. H. Thompson, chairman; Edward Everett Young, vice-chairman; Tom McEwen, A. L. McEwen, Claud Basche, Arthur Philbrick, John Austin, H. S. Sweetapple, Dr. C. M. Pearce, E. Barchard, H. K. Wheeler, Frank Shelton, John Cradlebaugh, John Cupid, Walter W. Looney, Dr. L. T. Brock, Harvey Wood, Sam R. Stott.

Membership committee: Sam R. Stott, chairman; H. S. Durgan, vice-chairman, M. E. Thornton, A. P. Jones, F. G. Jewett, H. C. Wood.

The initiation fee for charter members, who are limited to 150, was fixed at \$10, with dues of \$1 per month. To those joining the club after the charter list is closed, the initiation fee is \$25.

General Warren put a motion, which was unanimously carried, inviting the business residents of Baker, Union and Grant counties to become members of the club.

#### How One Sumpter Business Has Grown.

Mayor W. H. Gleason, who has, with J. F. Alden, been engaged in the meat and butcher business in Sumpter for the past six years, retires, temporarily at least, for one year from this date, in favor of Andrew Manns, of Baker City, who has purchased the business and leased the corner property for one year, where the old firm has built up a fine trade. As another evidence of the growth of Sumpter, Mayor Gleason says when he began business here he was taking a big chance when he killed a yearling, for fear the majority of it would spoil before he could sell it, while at this time they are killing and selling on an average 50 to 60 beef cattle, 70 to 75 hogs and 140 head of mutton per month. The new proprietor naturally steps into a fine established business, with the stated intention of further enlarging it and carrying one of the most completely stocked places of fresh and smoked meats and general packing house products in eastern Oregon, from which to supply the heavy orders from the mines and other sources. Mr. Gleason will now give more of his time to his mining interests in the district, of which he is considerably possessed.

#### Chicken Dinner This Evening.

A chicken dinner will be served this evening in the new Wood block, on Mill street, for the benefit of the church.

Live chickens for sale. If you want to buy, leave orders at Johnson's meat market, on Granite street.